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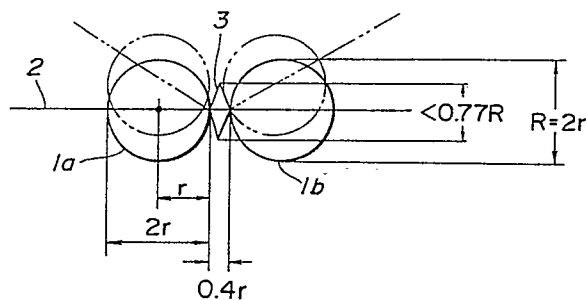
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54 Ornamental article.

57 An ornamental article such as a pearl necklace has a plurality of gem objects each having a spherical surface and a through hole extending substantially perpendicularly to the spherical surface, a string threaded through the gem objects to interconnect them, and a plurality of spacers of an elastomeric material interposed between adjacent ones of the gem objects and having through holes through which the string extends. The spherical surface of each of the adjacent gem objects has a radius of curvature of r . The thicker central portion having a thickness of at most $0.4r$, each spacer having a radius of at most $0.77r$. The string may be nonstretchable and coated with synthetic resin or natural resin. With this arrangement, the gem objects can easily be threaded on the string. The string is prevented from being subjected to undue tension even when bent strongly, so that the string and the gem objects are protected against damage in use or sale.





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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. 4)
Y	US-A-3 685 284 (TAUBNER, Jr.) * Claims 1-6; figures 1-9 *	1	A 44 C 11/00
A	---	2,5-10	
Y,D	JP-U-57 060 341 * Figures 1-5 *	1	
A	---	5,9,10, 14,15	
A	DE-A-3 319 163 (FA. URSULA HALL, NATUR-, GOLD- UND SILBERSCHMUCK) * Page 4, line 10 - page 5, line 9; claims 5,6 *	23-25	
A	---	26-28	
A	US-A-1 711 848 (C.E. HEITKEMPER) * Figure 1 *		
A	---	1,9,10	
A	GB-A- 236 866 (WILFRED du VELUZ GOUT) * Claim; figure 1 *		
A	---		
A	US-A-1 522 297 (F.J. GODSOL) -----		
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.4)
			A 44 C
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 25-03-1988	Examiner KARIPIDOU C.
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons ----- & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	